

Remarks

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 6,564,667 to Bayer et al. Bayer et al. was filed February 2, 2001 based upon a German priority application filed February 17, 2000. The present application is based upon a Swedish priority application filed December 9, 1999. None of the relevant dates for the Bayer et al. reference make it a valid reference against the present application. Therefore, the rejection based upon Bayer et al. should be withdrawn.

In conclusion, Applicants request favorable reconsideration of this case and issuance of the Notice of Allowance. If an interview would facilitate the prosecution of this case, Applicants urge the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below. The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-5127, 19387.0007.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11-4-03



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